

REMARKS

Claims 1, 7 and 8 have been amended. Claim 2-6 and 15-21 have been cancelled. New claims 22-26 have been added.

35 U.S.C. §102 rejections

Claims 1-21 have been rejected as being anticipated by Edwards. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments to claims 1 and 8 and the following remarks.

Claim 1 has been amended to include a connector with ends through which a channel extends. Fluid conducting conduits are couplable to the ends. Claim 1 also includes a threaded bore formed in the connector for receiving a threaded end of a nozzle. Edwards does not teach a threaded bore or a threaded end of a nozzle to be received therein. This greatly simplifies and reduces the expense of couplings and nozzles. Additionally, the connector supports a single nozzle, while Edwards teaches bar 20 supporting multiple nozzles along its substantial length.

Claims 2-6 have been canceled, rendering the rejection thereof, moot.

Claim 7 claims a channel including an intermediate passage with opposing counter bores. This is nowhere evident in Edwards, and is unnecessary for its intended use.

Therefore, since each and every element of the invention as claimed in claim 1 is not taught by Edward, there can be no anticipation. Claim 7 depends from claim 1, and is not anticipated for at least the same reasons and for the additional reasons stated. New claims 22 and 23 depend from claim 1 and are also allowable for the same reasons.

Claim 8 has been amended to include facets which when borne against an unbroken surface, locates the nozzle. This is possible because the fluid conduits are coupled to the ends of the connector and nothing is between the facet and the surface. Thus, the facet is free to engage a surface and locate the nozzle. The plurality of exterior facets is capable of orienting the nozzle in a different fixed direction relative a surface when selectively borne against the surface. This means that multiple facets are present which permit a selective orientation of the nozzle depending upon the facet borne against the surface. This is permitted because the fluid conduits are coupled to the ends of the connector, and do not interfere with the facets.

Edwards teaches a side coupled to a projecting top 16 of a display case 10. There are no facets, and the orientation of mist bar 20 is fixed. Bar 20 cannot be rotated fasteners must be mounted through bores 70. Additionally, the branch lines 26 prevent changing the orientation of bar 20. Thus, there are no facets, there is only a single side which must be positioned against the top 16 due to the construction of bar 20 and lines 26.

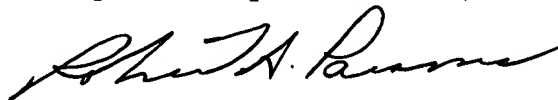
Therefore, since each and every element of the invention as claimed in claim 8 is not taught by Edward, there can be no anticipation. Claims 9-14 depend from claim 8, and are not anticipated for at least the same reasons.

Claims 15-21 have been canceled, rendering the rejections thereof moot.

New claim 24 includes a connector with a threaded bore for receiving a threaded end of a nozzle, and an intermediate passage with opposing counter bores. These are not taught by Edwards. Claims 25 and 26 depend from claim 24 and are allowable for the same reasons.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that each of the claims as now presented is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited. Should there be any remaining issues, Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the undersigned for a speedy resolution.

Respectfully submitted,



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